

**Present:** Cal Boyle, Jackie Bonney, Maureen Connor, Jim Davison, Richard Montz, Marilyn Ohman, and Shirley Cortright.

**Minutes:** Approved with few minor changes.

Treasurer: Balance remains same at \$1365.45. Jackie needs to go downstairs to Glacier Bank and complete signature information for the check book.

**Awards/Scholarships:** Cal went over the different categories for the MSEC Awards and Scholarships that are offered. They have extended the deadline to April 17<sup>th</sup>. If you need more information on this you can contact Shirley or Cal.

**Nominations Request:** MSEC (Montana State Employers Council) needs to elect two new officers this May: Treasurer and Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair position is a position of succession, meaning they will move automatically to Chair, and then Past-Chair positions, which does entail a long-term commitment. Interested individuals should submit one-page resume outlining their skills, ability and interest to Chris Wilhelm by May 8<sup>th</sup>. They will also take nominations from the floor at the Statewide JSEC Meeting on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Members will vote on the nominations at that time.

**Montana Economy at a Glance:** Shirley provided copies of the Montana Economy at a Glance. We discussed the fact that the UI rates had taken a jump again for our Tri-County areas. Maureen questioned how the UI Rates were reported using the example of Discovery Ski and if those laid off went with where the employer was or where the individual lived. Provided Our Facts Your Future Book marks

Marilyn indicated we are still waiting for updates from the Legislature on what we are doing with the money. Discussed publication on Southwest Montana she got thru email, provided everyone with a copy. Has statistics on the labor force and their educational level that are available and looking for work in our counties.

We discussed the issue with the lack of Day Cares and lack of summer programs for kids in specifically Granite County. Marilyn mentioned that Powell County also has an issue with lack of Day Care.

Raffle Tickets and Donations: Jackie is getting item from School for silent auction. Maureen will bring us a candy basket from the Sweet Palace. Shirley will contact Kerry Bruner to see if she can obtain some items from Deer Lodge.

Cal made a motion that was seconded by Jackie just because of the expense and time frame involved.

By laws revisited and changed Cal motioned that we make the changes, seconded by Maureen, will be changed and sent out and emailed out

Jackie indicated there will be some changes at the School District, just not sure at this time what they will be.

Jim discussed the possibility of setting up another meeting to meet with Dr. Darnell to discuss needs. Jackie will look at the possibility of meeting with him some time during May 4th-6<sup>th</sup>. Jim mentioned that we would be interested in doing a BEAR interview with the business that possibly is going out/or moving business out of Philipsburg. ALDC is looking at selling couple pieces of property. Arco is actually scheduled to clean up their A1 piece of property this year. On April 20<sup>th</sup> their hearing scheduled on permit to build power plant still anticipate an August ground breaking.

Maureen indicated that Philipsburg has a big check presentation scheduled for April 22nd with 5 million dollar package of grants and loans for sewer. Entire project is more in the 13-14 million dollar ranges and this is just the start of the project.

Jackie attended a workshop on FMLA and has information available on that and will share that with anyone that is interested. One critical item is that you have very good job descriptions for your employees and that those employees receive a copy of that and you receive a signature page that they have received the job description. Some of this information may be covered at our conference in May and probably at the Assistance for Business Clinics for this year. Shirley will check with Christine Robbins to see if this will be included.

There is a new designation/brochure that is available now for Agriculture. We have the brochures available if anyone is interested we can provide them with them.

Pen and portfolio provided to Richard.

Next meeting will be scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup> everyone will bring any items that they have for the basket at that time.